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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/721,234	11/26/2003	Kazuma Sekiya	33773M056	5686
441 75	590 09/02/2005	EXAMINER		
SMITH, GAMBRELL & RUSSELL, LLP			HEINRICH, SAMUEL M	
1850 M STREET, N.W., SUITE 800 WASHINGTON, DC 20036			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
	,	•	1725	

DATE MAILED: 09/02/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary  Examiner Samuel M. Heinrich  Total  The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address Period for Reply  A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.  Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.  If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.  Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).  Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).			<u></u>	( <i>\lambda</i> )			
Examiner   Samuel M. Heinrich   1725			Application No.	Applicant(s)			
Samuel M. Heinrich    1725			10/721,234	SEKIYA, KAZUMA			
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Period for Reply  A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.  - after SIX (4) MONTHS how the mailling date and provisions of the Priority of t							
WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.  Extensions of time may be waited used the provisions of 37 CF1 13/69. In no event, however, may anepty be timely filled after SIX (6) MCNTHS from the mailing date of this communication. Status of the provision	The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address Period for Reply						
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2a)  This action is FINAL.  3)  Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under Ex parte Quayle, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.  Disposition of Claims  4)  Claim(s) 1-12 is/are pending in the application.  4a) Of the above claim(s) is/are withdrawn from consideration.  5)  Claim(s) is/are allowed.  6)  Claim(s) is/are objected to.  8)  Claim(s) is/are objected to.  8)  Claim(s) are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.  Application Papers  9)  The specification is objected to by the Examiner.  10)  The drawing(s) filed on 26 November 2003 is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.  Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).  11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.  Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119  12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).  a) All b) Some Olymone of:  1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.  2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No  3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).  * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.  Attachment(s)  1) Notice of Praftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)  3) Information Discours Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/5808)	Status						
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## **DETAILED ACTION**

## Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 1-12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Applicant's Admitted Prior Art (AAPA) in view of either JP360208869A or JP404234178A and further in view of JP02001358188A. AAPA discloses (Specification, Description of the Prior Art) well known semiconductor manufacturing processes comprising dividing a wafer. Both JP360208869A and JP404234178A describe well known laser cutting comprising the use of a resin layer wherein the laser is applied through a protective film. The use of a machining step in the AAPA in which the laser is shined through a protective film would have been obvious at the time applicant's invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art because the film protects the workpiece from spatter. JP02001358188A describes both a resin sheet and the removal of the resin subsequent to processing. The use of any well known resin material, in sheet form or liquid form, and the removal thereof subsequent to processing would have been obvious at the time applicant's invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art because the materials are well known in the art and cleaning is a normal post-processing step.

## **Conclusion**

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The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. The cited art pertains to protective material usage.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Samuel M. Heinrich whose telephone number is 571-272-1175. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Thomas G. Dunn can be reached on 571-272-1171. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Samuel M Heinrich Primary Examiner Art Unit 1725

Samuel M. Herry